

Message

From: Kuefler, Patrick [kuefler.patrick@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/30/2018 7:14:20 PM
To: Singer, Joshua [Singer.Joshua@epa.gov]
CC: Baltazar, Debbie [baltazar.debbie@epa.gov]; Bahr, Ryan [bahr.ryan@epa.gov]; Holst, Linda [holst.linda@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

Ok with WECAB

From: Singer, Joshua
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 2:12 PM
To: Kuefler, Patrick <kuefler.patrick@epa.gov>
Cc: Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>; Bahr, Ryan <bahr.ryan@epa.gov>; Holst, Linda <holst.linda@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

Thanks, Pat.

Below is a revised paragraph with some style changes. Please let me know if this looks OK. Thanks.

August 2018 Update

EPA has finalized its Sampling Inspection Report related to the results of May 2018 groundwater testing conducted in Juneau County. EPA's tests – and others conducted by the county health department -- found elevated levels of nitrates. The Sampling Inspection Report summarizes EPA's groundwater screening investigation with descriptions of sampling preparation and methods and discussions of sampling results including maps. Region 5 continues to work with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to determine appropriate next steps.

Josh Singer
U.S. EPA, Region 5
phone: 312-353-5069
singer.joshua@epa.gov

From: Kuefler, Patrick
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 1:48 PM
To: Singer, Joshua <Singer.Joshua@epa.gov>
Cc: Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>; Bahr, Ryan <bahr.ryan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

How is this. I really only changed the 1st paragraph

Update – August 2018

EPA has released additional documentation related to the results of May 2018 groundwater testing conducted in Juneau County, Wisconsin. EPA's tests – and others conducted by the county health department -- found elevated levels of nitrates. The additional documentation released consists of an EPA Sampling Inspection Report which summarizes the sampling activity including descriptions of the investigation preparation and sampling activity and discussions of the

sample results including maps. Region 5 continues to work with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to evaluate the determine appropriate next steps.

Background

On April 30 through May 3, 2018, EPA sampled groundwater west of Petenwell Lake in northeast Juneau County after receiving complaints and information from citizens in the area regarding private drinking-water well contamination.

EPA collected groundwater samples at 41 temporary boring locations and 5 private drinking water wells. The samples were analyzed for:

- nutrients
- anions
- total metals
- nitrate isotopes

Note that not all samples were analyzed for all parameters.

EPA used temporary or “point-in-time” groundwater sampling techniques with the goal of characterizing the nature and extent of pollutants in groundwater. This information can be used to identify potential sources of groundwater pollutants and potential impacts to drinking water sources.

The borings were located in a grid network designed to characterize groundwater conditions upgradient and downgradient of potential sources of well contamination. Samples were collected at two depths to better characterize the extent of potential nitrate contamination in the aquifer.

EPA continues to evaluate data collected during the April 30 to May 3, 2018, sampling event. EPA will coordinate further with Wisconsin DNR to determine the appropriate next steps to protect public health.

Here’s the link to the web page: <https://www.epa.gov/wi/juneau-county-groundwater-screening-investigation>

From: Singer, Joshua

Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 9:46 AM

To: Kuefler, Patrick <kuefler.patrick@epa.gov>

Cc: Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

We did not have a desk statement in July—we updated the website with some plain language in addition to the technical documents.

Here is the update on the web page that is similar to a desk statement:

Update – July 2018

EPA has released the results of groundwater testing conducted in Juneau County, Wis. EPA’s tests – and others conducted by the county health department -- found elevated levels of nitrates. Region 5 continues to work with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to evaluate the results and determine appropriate next steps. Both agencies will attend a county-sponsored public meeting on Tuesday, July 17.

Background

On April 30 through May 3, 2018, EPA sampled groundwater west of Petenwell Lake in northeast Juneau County after receiving complaints and information from citizens in the area regarding private drinking-water well contamination.

EPA collected groundwater samples at 41 temporary boring locations and 5 private drinking water wells. The samples were analyzed for:

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Here’s the link to the web page: <https://www.epa.gov/wi/juneau-county-groundwater-screening-investigation>

Josh Singer
U.S. EPA, Region 5
phone: 312-353-5069
singer.joshua@epa.gov

From: Kuefler, Patrick
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 9:36 AM
To: Singer, Joshua <Singer.Joshua@epa.gov>
Cc: Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

If you have an example from that last one to share, we can take a stab at a revision

From: Singer, Joshua
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 9:34 AM
To: Kuefler, Patrick <kuefler.patrick@epa.gov>
Cc: Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

Pat,

Are you able to talk about this now? If you'd rather write up a paragraph or so that we could use as the starting point for a desk statement and send that to me, that would also be fine. Thank you.

Josh Singer
U.S. EPA, Region 5
phone: 312-353-5069
singer.joshua@epa.gov

From: Kelley, Jeff
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 8:57 AM
To: Singer, Joshua <Singer.Joshua@epa.gov>
Cc: Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>; Deamer, Eileen <deamer.eileen@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

Has anyone been talking to you about this already? Looks like we'll need to statement ASAP.

Jeff Kelley
Director, Office of External Communications
U.S. EPA Region 5
ph: 312-353-1159

From: Holst, Linda
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 8:55 AM
To: Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>; Payne, James <payne.james@epa.gov>
Cc: Kuefler, Patrick <kuefler.patrick@epa.gov>; Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>
Subject: Release of Juneau County Ground Water Sampling Report

Later today, our report will be ready to release including up on our website. I left a voicemail and emailed Jim Zellmer and sent an email to Pat Stevens letting them know we will share a copy with them before it goes live. We should have a press statement ready. The report just presents the data and explains how it was collected. It doesn't include observations, analysis or what we think the data means. Inspectors are directed not to do that in inspection type reports but to put that information in a referral memo or pleading section of an enforcement action.

Jeff and others....I will be out of the office from ~9:15-12:45pm, but back in after that if you need me to review any statements. Deb and Pat are available and can look at the statements too.

Linda Holst | Acting Director, Water Division | U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., W-15J, Chicago, IL 60604 | Ph. (312) 886-6758 | holst.linda@epa.gov